



# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



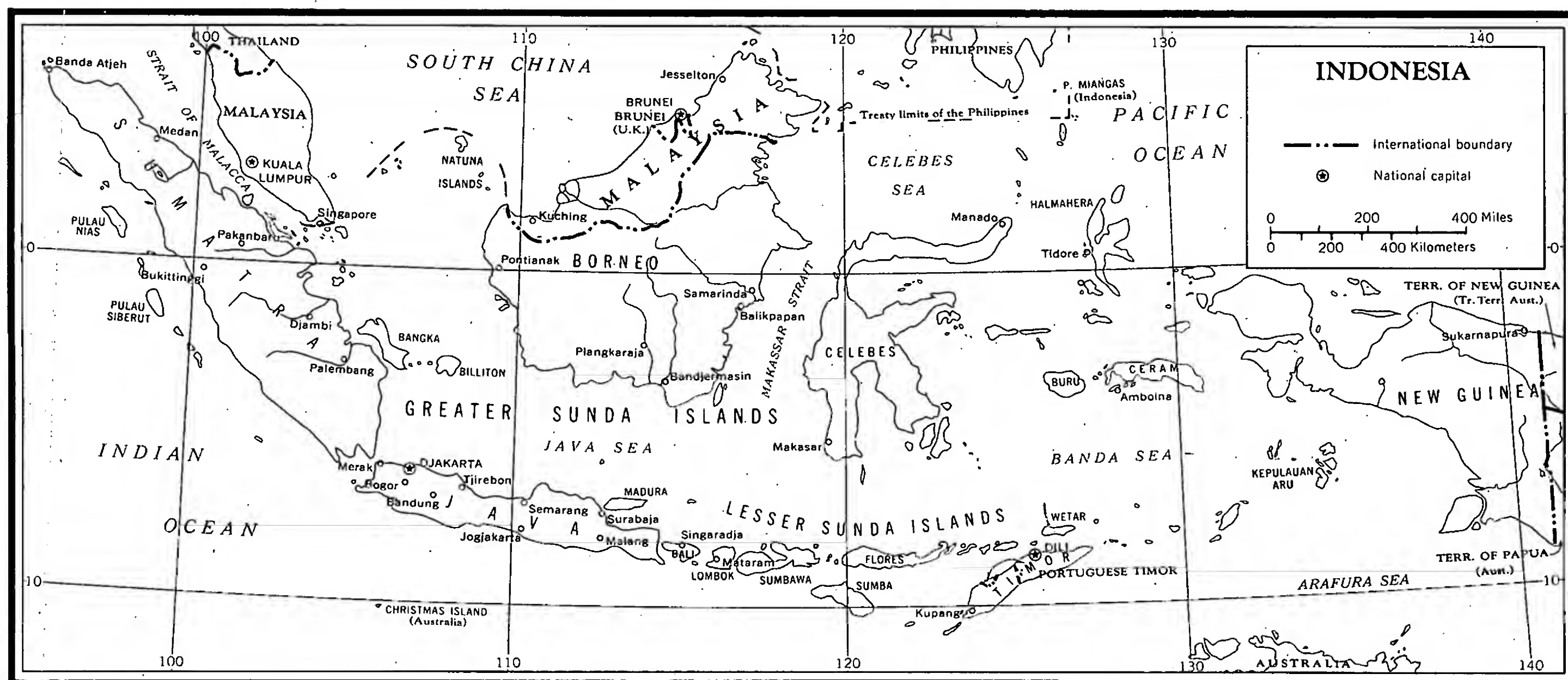
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18 MARCH 1965

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DAILY BRIEF  
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1. Indonesia

Security measures, including black-outs, air raid precautions, and restrictions on foreigners, have been imposed in northern Sumatra and the city of Medan. This suggests that Djakarta remains nervous about possible Malaysian-British retaliation for Indonesian raids. 50X1

(See map.)

The Peace Corps may soon be subjected to intensive harassment. The Djakarta press says that the country's largest trade union federation--Communist led--has called on Sukarno to expel all Peace Corps members. Today, Sukarno said he did not have time to discuss the "big question" of withdrawing the Peace Corps with Ambassador Jones, but would do so next week.

2. Vietnam

The Armed Forces Council meeting to discuss command changes originally scheduled to meet on Monday and postponed until today has again been pushed back. This suggests that the generals are having trouble making up their minds about keeping General Minh as commander in chief. The indications are that he will stay on.

Hanoi has issued its clearest statement to date on the impossibility of negotiating. The statement asserts that the US "aggressor" must end his aggressive war and withdraw all US troops from South Vietnam. The statement also denounced the exchange of letters between President Johnson and Tito as a "peace farce," calling Tito a "stool pigeon."

### 3. Cyprus

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Turkish Prime Minister Urguplu says that the feeling in his government and parliament is such that he would not be able to restrain those in favor of war if there is a single attack on Turkish Cypriots. Urguplu, lacking Inonu's prestige, is in a weaker position vis-a-vis the army.

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The arrival of Soviet arms in Cyprus may bring to an end Ankara's brief flirtation with Moscow. The Turks view Soviet denials as taking refuge in a technicality.

In Athens, the government has evidently provided the press with the line that the Soviet arms are purely defensive. One editorial implied that the US is "hypocritical" in objecting.

### 4. Western Europe

Foreign Minister Fanfani has proposed an EEC foreign ministers' meeting in May on procedural aspects of European political unification. De Gaulle and Erhard agreed in January that unity talks this spring would be desirable, but have said little about this since. Spaak told his parliament this week that the European political community will become a reality in three to five years. In an apparent warning to the Wilson government, Spaak also said that time is working against UK membership in the EEC.

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## 5. Congo

Voting in the parliamentary elections, which will continue province-by-province until the end of April, begins in the Katangan provinces this weekend. As yet, no foreign governments have taken up Tshombe's invitation to send observers.

One of Tshombe's campaign aides says that candidates allied with him will win 150 of the 180 seats, and that parliament will then elect Tshombe president.

Although various other sources have reported that Tshombe plans to replace President Kasavubu, this is the first time one of his close political henchmen has mentioned it to the US Embassy. Even if these reports are false, they may well cause trouble, since Kasavubu commands broad political power and guards it jealously.

Col Hoare's force of mercenaries and Congolese is advancing northward toward Aba from Mahagi in the border-closing operation. No further brushes with the Ugandans have been reported.

## 6. Ghana

The US Embassy in Accra reports that public resentment against Nkrumah is becoming more pronounced because of increasing unemployment, shortages of consumer goods, and government austerity measures.

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